

# Region 10 Tribal Newsletter



## LETTER

Vol. XV No. II  
February I, 2006

### Work Shops and Conferences

**February 13-16, Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians (ATNI) Winter Conference, Portland, OR. Airport Embassy Suites.**

**February 27-28, 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Harvesting Clean Energy Conference, Spokane, WA.,** Northwest event to advance opportunities for producers and rural communities to profitably diversify into clean energy production.

[www.harvestcleanenergy.org](http://www.harvestcleanenergy.org)

**March 10-12, American Indian Science & Engineering Society (AISES) Region 1 Conference, PSU, Portland, OR, [aises@pdx.edu](mailto:aises@pdx.edu) or Beth Dillon [beth.a.dillon@gmail.com](mailto:beth.a.dillon@gmail.com)**

**March 13-17, Emergency Management Framework for Tribal Governments, Washington, D.C.** See below\*

**March 29-31, 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Washington State Indian Education Association, WSU, Pullman, WA.**

For info: Denise Bill [dbill@auburn.wednet.edu](mailto:dbill@auburn.wednet.edu) 253/931-4999

**April 2-5, 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Northwest Indian Youth Conference, Seattle Center, WA. [www.iwasil.org](http://www.iwasil.org)**

**April 10-13, Mitigation for Tribal Officials, Emmitsburg, MD.** See below\*\*

**September, 24-29, Tribal Science Conference, Ocean Shores, WA. <http://www.quinaultbeachresort.com>**

**August 21-25, Tribal Leaders Summit, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indians Reservation.**

Pendleton, OR. For more information: <http://www.umatilla.nsn.us/2006EPASummit.html>

**November 2-5, 28<sup>th</sup> Annual AISES Conference, Detroit, MI. [www.aises.org](http://www.aises.org)**

**Region 10 Tribal  
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To receive a copy call:

AK..Rob.....907/271-6323

ID..Arlene.....208/378-5749

OR..Don.....503/326-5015

WA..Alison....360/753-8185

**Tribal Governments\***  
Emergency Management  
Framework for Tribal

governments. This course provides tribal leaders and representatives with a basic understanding of emergency management principles and their roles in leading and directing their tribes in developing and implementing comprehensive emergency management systems. This course is free and lodging will be provided. A roundtrip flight from home to Baltimore/Washington, Dulles,

or Washington National is reimbursable and transportation between airports and the campus will be provided. Your only expense would be a one-week meal ticket, which is \$90. If you are interested, contact Linda Straka at 301/447-1162 or [Linda.Straka@dhs.gov](mailto:Linda.Straka@dhs.gov)

**Mitigation for Tribal\*\*  
Officials**

This course provides a 1-week overview of FEMA's

mitigation programs. Students should have some familiarity with FEMA, in terms of its overall programs. Since May 2005, states or tribes that don't have an approved mitigation plan are not eligible for certain kinds of FEMA assistance after a disaster. Tribes can either work through the county in which their tribe is located or develop their own state-level mitigation plan. The contact for this class is Dawn Warehime 301/447-1309 or [Dawn.Warehime@dhs.gov](mailto:Dawn.Warehime@dhs.gov).

### **Financial Opportunities**

Financial Opportunities from the Western Regional Office, Department of Energy, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE). EERE financial opportunities for tribes are managed by the Golden Field Office and detailed on the Tribal Energy Program Web site. This program provides financial and technical assistance to tribes for feasibility studies and shares the cost of implementing sustainable renewable energy installations on tribal lands. Relevant financial solicitations can be found on the funding opportunities page. More: <http://www.eere.energy.gov/financing>

### **Waste Management Assistance**

Solicitation are available on the national EPA Tribal Solid Waste Funding website at: <http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/non-hw/tribal/finance.htm> In order to address some issues that were discovered during

EPA's review of the solicitation, and to clarify portions of the solicitation, the Office of Solid Waste (OSW) will be issuing a revised solicitation in the near future. Once the revised solicitation has been issued, the deadlines and due dates will be extended to allow you to have at least 45 days to develop your final proposal. OSW will withdraw the notice of funding availability from the Federal Register and hope to get the revised solicitation out and posted on their web site and grants.gov within the next few weeks.

The Tribal Solid Waste Interagency Workgroup is part of an effort to coordinate federal solid waste assistance to tribes. Current national Workgroup members at the national level include representatives from the EPA, the BIA, the IHS, and the Departments of Agriculture and Defense.

This year the Workgroup is soliciting proposals on any of four different types of activities that meet the goals of the project:

- (1) characterizing/assessing open dumps;
- (2) developing Integrated Solid Waste Management (ISWM) plans, codes, and regulations;
- (3) developing and implementing alternative solid waste management activities/facilities (including equipment acquisition); and
- (4) cleanup, closure, and developing post-closure programs for open dump waste sites on tribal lands.

<http://www.epa.gov/tribalmw> .  
Info: Bremer-Farnham  
206/553-6697 or  
[bremer.kim@epa.gov](mailto:bremer.kim@epa.gov)

### **Protection Manual**

EPA has released its revised protection standards for workers using or handling agricultural pesticides, or working in fields that have been treated with pesticides. The Worker Protection Standards for Agricultural Pesticides How-to-Comply Manual is available on the internet at: [www.epa.gov/agriculture/htc.html](http://www.epa.gov/agriculture/htc.html)

### **Training Modules**

A module uses a three-step process and a combination of case studies, exercises and other interactive methods to teach the fundamentals of a specific environmental management technique. A catalogue of the modules can be found at: <http://www.epa.gov/oia/techass/t/training/traincatalog.html>

### **Wetlands Protection**

EPA has issued guidelines for state, tribal, and local officials to reduce non-point source pollution through protection and restoration of wetlands and riparian areas.

The document describes practices that state, tribal, and local program managers can adopt to reduce non-point source pollution from surface water and groundwater, which impairs wetlands and riparian buffers.

The agency attributes water impairment and subsequent wetland degradation to urban

and agricultural runoff as well as deposition of atmospheric pollutants in combination with habitat altering activities, such as dredging and streambank stabilization.

The guidance would be especially useful for managers of small communities and individual consultants. The guidance is available at: <http://www.epa.gov/owow/nps/wetmeasures/pdf/guidance.pdf>

### **NCEH/ATSDR**

The National Center for Environmental Health (NCEH) and Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) are soliciting interested persons to serve as members on the Community Tribal Subcommittee (CTS) of the NCEH/ATSDR Board of Scientific Counselors (BSC). The BSC is chartered under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. app.). The CTS is composed of members of NCEH/ATSDR BSC and members representing community and tribal perspectives on environmental health issues. More information on NCEH can be found at: <http://www.cdc.gov/nceh>. Also, you may contact Leslie Campbell at 888/422-8738.

### **Coastal Marine Grants**

The National Association of Counties, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA's) Community-based Restoration Program have

announced the creation of a new grant program targeting marine habitat restoration in coastal counties. The Coastal Counties Restoration Initiative will provide financial assistance on a competitive basis to innovative, high-quality, county-led or -supported projects that support wetland, riparian, and coastal habitat restoration. The deadline for applications is February 24, 2006 More: <http://www.nfwf.org/programs/ccri.cfm>

### **Wet Weather Discharges**

EPA has proposed a new policy for addressing peak wet weather discharges at wastewater treatment plants. During peak wet weather, limited diversions around biological treatment units can help prevent raw sewage from being discharged into our nation's waters, backing up into homes and other buildings, or damaging biological treatment units. EPA's goal in proposing this new policy is to ensure that all feasible solutions are used by local governments when addressing problems related to peak wet weather and to improve treatment of wastewater to protect human health and the environment. For more: [http://cfpub.epa.gov/npdes/wetweather.cfm?program\\_id=0](http://cfpub.epa.gov/npdes/wetweather.cfm?program_id=0)

### **Energy Efficiency**

EPA's Energy Star program offers a directory of energy efficiency programs. The directory can help local governments identify organizations in their state that

sponsor energy efficiency programs that are partnered with ENERGY STAR. These offerings can include financial and technical assistance to improve energy efficiency. For more:

<http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?fuseaction=DEEPS.showSponsorSearch>

### **Cryptosporidium**

EPA is promulgating National Primary Drinking Water Regulations that require the use of treatment techniques, along with monitoring, reporting, and public notification requirements, for all public water systems that use surface water sources. The purposes of the **Long Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule (LT2ESWTR)** are to protect public health from illness due to Cryptosporidium and other microbial pathogens in drinking water and to address risk-risk trade-offs with the control of disinfection byproducts. This final rule is effective on March 6, 2006. For more: <http://www.regulations.gov/fdmspublic-re/11/component/main>

### **The Restoration 2006**

Restoration 2006 Conference will be held on May 16-17, 2006 in New Orleans, LA. The conference, organized by the International City/County Management Association (ICMA), the National Association of Counties (NACo), and the National League of Cities (NLC), will be focused on long

term and sustainable community and economic recovery in the aftermath of a natural or man-made disaster. It is designed to empower local, state, and federal officials, private sector practitioners, nonprofit organizations and others with knowledge, networks, and strategies to enable effective community and economic redevelopment following a large scale or localized catastrophe, such as floods, fires, tornadoes, hurricanes, industrial accidents, and terrorist incidents. For more:

<http://www.restoration2006.org>

### **Chinese Air**

(Beijing, Nov. 23, 2005) A team of U.S.-supported Chinese researchers have outlined strategies to dramatically reduce emissions of greenhouse gases and local air pollutants in preparation for the 2008 Summer Olympics and afterward. With clean energy technologies and policies in Beijing the city could reduce annual emissions of carbon dioxide by up to 22 percent in 2010, the study found. Output of health-impairing particulate matter could also be cut by up to 40 percent each year. The Beijing project is part of a larger effort by EPA to work with China and other developing countries to promote environmental sustainability.

### **Oceans.US**

Oceans.US was created by the National Oceanographic Partnership Program.

Ocean.US is designed to coordinate the development of an operational and integrated and sustained ocean observational system. EPA is one of nine federal agencies participating in the development of this *Integrated Ocean Observing System* (IOOS). Information from this system will serve national needs. More: [www.ocean.us](http://www.ocean.us).

### **Wetlands/Riparian Guidance**

EPA recently published *National Management Measures to Protect and Restore Wetlands and Riparian Areas for the Abatement of Nonpoint Source Pollution*. The guidance gives background information about nonpoint source pollution, including where it comes from and how it enters the nation's waters. It discusses the broad concept of assessing and addressing water quality problems on a watershed level. It also presents recent technical information about how to reduce certain types of nonpoint source pollution. The guidance is intended to be a reference document for use by state and tribal managers and members of the public working on nonpoint source pollution management programs. More: [www.epa.gov/owow/nps/wetmeasures](http://www.epa.gov/owow/nps/wetmeasures). For a free copy 800/490-9198 or [www.epa.gov/ncepihom](http://www.epa.gov/ncepihom). Request publication #EPA 841-050003.

### **Online Funding Directory**

The Environmental finance center at Boise State University maintains a national funding

database called the *Directory of Watershed Resources*. This resources is an online, searchable database for watershed restoration funding. It includes information on federal, state (AK, ID, OR, & WA), private, and other sources of funding and assistance. More: <http://efc.boisestate.edu>.

### **Watershed Funding**

EPA has launched a new *Watershed Funding* website. The pages contain links to tool, databases, and resources about grants, funding, and fundraising. The website can help nonprofit watershed organizations, state and local governments and funders more easily find information so that they can effectively obtain and invest resources to improve watershed health. More: [www.epa.gov/owow/funding.html](http://www.epa.gov/owow/funding.html).

### **Watershed Handbook**

EPA's Office of Water has published a guide to watershed management as a tool in developing and implementing watershed plans. The draft Handbook for Developing Watershed Plans to Restore and Protect Our Waters is aimed toward communities, watershed groups, and local, state, tribal, and federal environmental agencies. "This handbook will help anyone undertaking a watershed planning effort, but it should be particularly useful to persons working with impaired or threatened waters," said EPA Assistant Administrator for Water Benjamin H. Grumbles.

The 414-page handbook is designed to take the user through each step of the watershed planning process: watershed monitoring and assessment, community outreach, selection and application of available models, best management practices, effectiveness data bases, implementation, feedback and plan adjustment.

The handbook is intended to supplement existing watershed planning guides that have been developed by agencies, universities, and other nonprofit organizations Center for Environmental Publications by calling 800/490-9198 or e-mail [ncepimal@one.net](mailto:ncepimal@one.net). When ordering, refer to EPA document number EPA 841-B-05-005

### **Older Americans**

Working with older Americans on environmental issues? You might find EPA's *Power of Change* kit useful. The "Power of Change" campaign teaches older Americans what they can do to help reduce waste and protect the environment for the next generation. This free kit of resources explains how to reduce waste, conserve our natural resources, and save energy. More: [www.epa.gov/epaoswer/aging](http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/aging).

### **National Mitigation & Conservation Banking Conference**

The 9th National Mitigation & Conservation Banking Conference will be held on April 24-27, 2006, in Portland,

OR. Features of the 2006 Conference include: Plenaries that address the new regulations; Interactive concurrent and plenary sessions offering banker, regulator and user perspectives; Stream Mitigation Banking Workshop; Field Trips; Regulator & Banker Forums; Banking Primer 101 Workshop; Exhibits & networking opportunities. Some scholarships available. More: <http://www.mitigationbankingconference.com>

### **Habitattitude**

Habitattitude™, a new public outreach effort, encourages home aquarium owners to avoid discarding aquatic plants or fish into local ecosystems. The website helps consumers learn about preventing the spread of invasives. The site offers alternatives to releasing plants and animals, provides instructions on how individuals and clubs can get involved, and gives details on species that have created problems in aquatic systems. More: [www.habitattitude.net](http://www.habitattitude.net).

### **Funding Allocations**

With an extra \$18 million for national water quality monitoring in fiscal year 2006, the EPA announced plans to allocate funds differently. The funds supplement an existing allocation of approximately \$200 million annually to support state, interstate agency and tribal programs to combat water pollution.

The agency is changing the way it allocates funds under the

water pollution control grant program (known as Section 106 of the Clean Water Act). The agency allocates the funds through a prescribed allotment formula. Under the revised process, EPA will be able to target these addition funds to help address priorities that include monitoring for pollutants.

This action was taken in response to President Bush's fiscal year 2006 budget calling for an increase in funding of water quality monitoring nationwide.

### **Native Peoples Website**

Native Peoples, the largest and oldest consumer magazine dedicated to the sensitive portrayal of the arts and lifeways of the Native peoples of the Americas, has recently re-launched its website: [www.nativepeoples.com](http://www.nativepeoples.com), with a host of new features. The redesigned site provides links to Native organizations, business, artists and others associated with the Native American community.

### **8<sup>th</sup> NTCEM**

EPA intends to award a competed cooperative agreement to a federally recognized tribe to co-sponsor the 8<sup>th</sup> National Tribal Conference on Environmental Management (NTCEM). The conference is expected to be held in the fall of 2007.

The NTCEM has consistently provided an effective forum for sharing information about tribal environmental programs and

discussing issues of vital interest to Indian country. One of the most valuable aspects of the NTCEM is the opportunity it offers to share success stories and promote the transfer of information and tools to strengthen environmental protection in Indian country. (More to follow)

### **Norway Oil**

The Norwegian Petroleum Directorate said projected productions levels will fall from 2.56 million barrels per day in 2005 to 2.43 million barrels per day this year. Norway is the third largest oil exporter.

Analysts expect natural gas exports from Norway to increase this year, rising above the 2005 annual record of 35.3 trillion cubic feet.

### **HealthySEAT**

Using a holistic approach to school health, EPA's new Healthy School Environments Assessment Tool (HealthySEAT) is a free software tool that school districts can customize to assess potential issues such as mold, asbestos and lead paint, then evaluate and manage information on conditions at each school. The assessment tool can be downloaded at:

<http://www.epa.gov/schools/healthyseat>

### **Woodstoves**

EPA-certified wood stoves emit approximately 70% less pollution than old conventional stoves. It is estimated that replacing 20 old wood stoves with 20 more energy efficient, less polluting, EPA-certified

stoves reduces PM2.5 by 1 ton per year and gets toxics (PAHs) benefits also. There are approximately 10 million wood stoves in use at this time and ~75% of those are pre New Source Performance Standards (NSPS) stoves.

EPA's primary focus is on voluntary efforts to reduce emissions from residential wood combustion (eg., woodstoves, fireplaces, and outdoor wood boilers).

EPA has launched a new site (<http://www.epa.gov/woodstoves/basic.html>) that provides consumers with information on health effects of wood smoke, benefits of using new, cleaner-burning hearth technologies.